

The Spirit of 1848 Caucus: A Network Linking Politics, Passion, and Public Health

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

American Public Health Association: 137th Annual Meeting
“Water and Public Health: the 21st Century Challenge”
Philadelphia, PA, November 7-11, 2009.

The Spirit of 1848 Caucus is organizing 4 oral sessions and 1 poster session for the 137th annual meeting of the American Public Health Association (Philadelphia, PA, November 7-11, 2009). The sessions will be organized around the 3 themes of our caucus, which concern the inextricable links between social justice and public health, as manifested in: the politics of public health data, social history of public health, and progressive pedagogy. To learn more about the Spirit of 1848 Caucus and sessions we have organized at past APHA meetings, please see our mission statement below and please also visit our website at:

<http://www.spiritof1848.org>

1) POLITICS OF PUBLIC HEALTH DATA SESSION

For APHA 2009, the session will focus on:

“Macroeconomics, Political Systems, and Population Health and Health Inequities”

Based on discussion at the Spirit of 1848 business meeting at the 2008 annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, the Politics of Public Health Data session will have an **OPEN CALL FOR ABSTRACTS** that critically examine how macroeconomics and political systems shape population health and health inequities, that is, the political economy of health writ large.

Examples of presentations could include results from empirical studies that demonstrate how the current economic market crisis affects population health and the magnitude of health inequities, or studies that demonstrate relationships between macroeconomic factors and/or political systems and temporal trends in overall levels of population health and/or the magnitude of health inequities. Additional possibilities include how policies of international economic institutions (e.g., The World Bank) or trade agreements (e.g., NAFTA) affect population health and health inequities, including with regard to policies and agreements pertaining to water and sanitation. Presentations based on research in the U.S. or in other countries are welcome; studies can focus on only one country or do cross-country or cross-region comparisons. The session will consist of 2-3 presentations and a discussant, and will allow for adequate time to solicit questions or comments from the audience.

Reminder: for this session we are issuing an open call for abstracts, meaning that: presentations for this session will be selected from abstracts submitted in response to this “call for abstracts.”

This session will take place at the 137th annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, in Philadelphia, PA, on Monday, November 9th, in the 2:30 to 4:00 pm APHA time slot.

For any questions about this session, please contact Spirit of 1848 Coordinating Committee member Catherine Cubbin (email: ccubbin@austin.utexas.edu)

2) SOCIAL HISTORY OF PUBLIC HEALTH SESSION:

For APHA 2009, our session will focus on:

“The Social History and Politics of Water and Public Health”

Based on discussion at the Spirit of 1848 business meeting at the 2008 annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, the Spirit of 1848 History session will have an **OPEN CALL FOR ABSTRACTS** that critically examine the social history and politics of water and public health, especially in relation to water access and sanitation.

Examples could include (but are not restricted to) critical analysis of: (a) the politics of sanitary reform during the early and mid-19th century in Europe and US; (b) past and enduring obstacles to ensuring access to adequate sanitation and clean water for the bulk of the world's population (as played out in different specific country and regional contexts); and (c) the links between past and present struggles to treat water as an essential good rather than as a commodity.

Reminder: for this session we are issuing an open call for abstracts, meaning that presentations for this session will be selected from abstracts submitted in response to this “call for abstracts.”

This session will take place at the 137th annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, in Philadelphia, PA, on Monday, November 9th, in the 10:30 am to 12 noon pm APHA time slot.

For any questions about this session, please contact Spirit of 1848 Coordinating Committee member Anne-Emanuelle Birn (email: ae.birn@utoronto.ca)

3) PROGRESSIVE PEDAGOGY SESSION:

For APHA 2009, our session will be on:

“Community perspectives on community-based progressive pedagogy”

This session will have an **OPEN CALL FOR ABSTRACTS** that critically examine service learning and other community-based learning experiences from the perspective of the communities in which the learning experiences are embedded. Most often, service learning and other community-based experiences are focused on student learning and student change as the important processes and outcomes. This session will turn the focus toward the community members and their experiences. We want to hear what they would like to have happen when students work in their communities and specific examples of what does and doesn't work from the community perspective. Abstracts that involve the voices of both community members and faculty/students are welcome. If possible, at least one speaker will discuss social justice and public health issues involving water, e.g., environmental justice, water access, sanitation, and ecologic sustainability.

Reminder: for this session we are issuing an open call for abstracts, meaning that presentations for this session will be selected from abstracts submitted in response to this “call for abstracts.”

This session will take place at the 137th annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, in Philadelphia, PA, on Tuesday, November 10th, in the 8:30 to 10:00 am APHA time slot.

For any questions about this session, please contact either of the following Spirit of 1848 Coordinating Committee members: Lisa Moore (email: lisadee@sfsu.edu) and Suzanne Christopher (email: suzanne@montana.edu).

4) INTEGRATIVE SESSION:

Starting with the APHA 2002 Conference, the Spirit of 1848 has sponsored an “integrative” session that integrates the three themes of our Caucus. Embodying the inextricable links between social justice & public health, our three themes are: (1) the politics of public health data, (2) the social history of public health, and (3) progressive pedagogy.

For APHA 2009, our integrative session will focus on:

“Indigenous Methodologies in Public Health Research: An Issue of Social Justice & Good Science”

This session will focus on methods for advancing discussion and practice of the use of Indigenous methodologies in public health research. Many researchers involved in research with Indigenous peoples have raised questions regarding whose perspective is informing the research process and what it means for those involved. Indigenous methodology is an approach to culturally appropriate knowledge production and dissemination. The purpose of indigenous methodologies is to ensure that research is done in a respectful, ethical manner that is valuable and useful from the view of Indigenous people. In this session, we will explore these issues in relation to the three themes of the spirit of 1848 caucus: (1) the social history of public health, (2) the politics of public health data, and (3) progressive pedagogy, and our overall focus on links between social justice and public health.

No unsolicited abstracts will be considered for this session.

This session will take place at the 137th annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, in Philadelphia, PA, on Monday, November 9, 2009 in the 4:30 to 6:00 pm APHA time slot.

5) STUDENT POSTER SESSION:

For APHA 2009, our student poster session will focus on:

“Social Justice & Public Health: Student Posters”

For this session we have an **OPEN CALL FOR ABSTRACTS** from students of public health and health-related programs that highlight the intersection between social justice and public health from a historical, epidemiological, and/or methodological perspective. We welcome abstracts on topics ranging from public health research to public health practice to student-initiated courses on connections between social justice & public health. The work presented can be global, country-specific, or local.

We encourage students at ALL levels of training in their work on public health to submit abstracts, whether undergraduates, master students, MPH students, or doctoral students; submissions will be judged in accordance to expectations appropriate for each level of training. Postdoctoral fellows are NOT eligible to submit posters.

Abstracts should focus on furthering understanding and action to address the ways that social inequality harms, and social equity improves, the public's health. Examples of social inequality include inequitable social divisions within societies based on social class, race/ethnicity, and gender, as well as inequitable relations between nations and geographical regions. Given the theme of the conference, we especially welcome abstracts on the topic of public health and water.

Reminder: for this session we are issuing an open call for abstracts, meaning that all posters for this session will be selected from abstracts submitted in response to this "call for abstracts."

This session will take place at the 137th annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, in Philadelphia, PA, on Tuesday, November 10, 2009 in the 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm APHA time slot.

For any questions about this session, please contact Spirit of 1848 Coordinating Committee member Vanessa Watts (vwatts@hsph.harvard.edu).

If you have any questions about the proposed Spirit of 1848 sessions, please contact the relevant subcommittee contacts for these sessions, listed below:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1) Public Health Data: | Catherine Cubbin (ccubbin@austin.utexas.edu) |
| 2) Curriculum: | Suzanne Christopher (suzanne@montana.edu) or
Lisa Moore (lisadee@sfsu.edu) |
| 3) History: | Anne-Emanuelle Birn (ae.birn@utoronto.ca) |
| 4) Integrative session: | Vanessa Watts (vwatts@hsph.harvard.edu) |
| 5) Student poster session: | Vanessa Watts (vwatts@hsph.harvard.edu) |

For additional information about the Spirit of 1848, including our mission statement and why our name is "Spirit of 1848," please see below--and also please visit our website, where you can learn more about our Caucus and see past sessions that we have organized at APHA:

<http://www.spiritof1848.org/>

And, if you are interested in subscribing to our email bulletin board, we welcome posting on social justice & public health that provide:

- information (e.g. about conferences or job announcements or publications relevant to and making explicit links between social justice & public health), and
- substantive queries or comments directly addressing issues relevant to and making explicit links between social justice and public health.

If your posting is only about social justice/political issues, or only about public health issues, and does not explicitly connect issues of social justice & public health, please do not post it on this listserv. Please note that the listserv does not accept attachments. For petitions, please post only the text, accompanied by the explicit instruction not to reply to the listserv but to reply to you directly with signatures.

Community email addresses:

Post message: spiritof1848@yahoogroups.com

Subscribe: spiritof1848-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Unsubscribe: spiritof1848-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com
List owner: spiritof1848-owner@yahoogroups.com
Web page: www.spiritof1848.org

To subscribe or un-subscribe send an e-mail to the address specified above with the word "subscribe" or "unsubscribe" in the subject line. To change to digest mode (one daily e-mail containing the day's postings), you need to access your account via the YahooGroups website and select the digest option under "Message Delivery."

For more information, please see the Spiritof1848 Listserv Semi-Regular Reminder or e-mail the list owner.

SPIRIT OF 1848 MISSION STATEMENT

November 2002

The Spirit of 1848: A Network linking Politics, Passion, and Public Health

Purpose and Structure

The Spirit of 1848 is a network of people concerned about social inequalities in health. Our purpose is to spur new connections among the many of us involved in different areas of public health, who are working on diverse public health issues (whether as researchers, practitioners, teachers, activists, or all of the above), and live scattered across diverse regions of the United States and other countries. In doing so, we hope to help counter the fragmentation that many of us face: within and between disciplines, within and between work on particular diseases or health problems, and within and between different organizations geared to specific issues or social groups. By making connections, we can overcome some of the isolation that we feel and find others with whom we can develop our thoughts, strategize, and enhance efforts to eliminate social inequalities in health.

Our common focus is that we are all working, in one way or another, to understand and change how social divisions based on social class, race/ethnicity, gender, sexual identity, and age affect the public's health. As an activist and scholarly network, we have established four committees to conduct our work:

- 1) Public Health Data:** this committee will focus on how and why we measure and study social inequalities in health, and develop projects to influence the collection of data in US vital statistics, health surveys, and disease registries.
- 2) Curriculum:** this committee will focus on how public health and other health professionals and students are trained, and will gather and share information about (and possibly develop) courses and materials to spur critical thinking about social inequalities in health, in their present and historical context.
- 3) E-Networking:** this committee will focus on networking and communication within the Spirit of 1848, using e-mail, web page, newsletters, and occasional mailings; it also coordinates the newly established student poster session.
- 4) History:** this committee is in liaison with the Sigerist Circle, an already established organization of public health and medical historians who use critical theory (Marxian, feminist, post-colonial, and otherwise) to illuminate the history of public health and how we have arrived where we are today; its presence in the Spirit of 1848 will help to ensure that our network's projects are grounded in this sense of history, complexity, and context.

Work among these committees will be coordinated by our Coordinating Committee, which consists of chair/co-chairs and the chairs/co-chairs of each of the four sub-committees. To ensure accountability, all public activities sponsored by the Spirit of 1848 (e.g., public statements, mailings, sessions at conferences, other public actions) will be organized by these committees and approved by the Coordinating Committee (which will communicate on at least a monthly basis). Annual meetings of the network (so that we can actually see each other and talk together) will take place at the yearly American Public Health Association meetings. Finally, please note that we are NOT a dues-paying membership organization. Instead, we are an activist, volunteer network: you become part of the Spirit of 1848 by working on one of our projects, through one of our committees--and we invite you to join in!

NB: for additional information the Spirit of 1848 and our choice of name, see:

--Coordinating Committee of Spirit of 1848 (Krieger N, Zapata C, Murrain M, Barnett E, Parsons PE, Birn AE).

Spirit of 1848: a network linking politics, passion, and public health. *Critical Public Health* 1998; 8:97-103.

--Krieger N, Birn AE. A vision of social justice as the foundation of public health: commemorating 150 years of the spirit of 1848. *Am J Public Health* 1998; 88:1603-6 .

Community email addresses: Post message: spiritof1848@yahoogroups.com; Subscribe: spiritof1848-subscribe@yahoogroups.com; Unsubscribe: spiritof1848-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com; List owner: spiritof1848-owner@yahoogroups.com; Web page: www.spiritof1848.org

First issued: Fall 1994; revised: November 2001; November 2001; November 2002

Selected notable events in and around 1848

1840-

1847: Louis Rene Villermé publishes the first major study of workers' health in France, A Description of the Physical and Moral State of Workers Employed in Cotton, Linen, and Silk Mills (1840) and Flora Tristan, based in France, publishes her London Journal: A Survey of London Life in the 1830s (1840), a pathbreaking account of the extreme poverty and poor health of its working classes; in England, Edwin Chadwick publishes General Report on Sanitary Conditions of the Laboring Population in Great Britain (1842); first child labor laws in the Britain and the United States (1842); end of the Second Seminole War (1842); prison reform movement in the United States initiated by Dorothea Dix (1843); Frederick Engels publishes The Condition of the Working Class in England (1844); John Griscom publishes The Sanitary Condition of the Laboring Population of New York with Suggestions for Its Improvement (1845); Irish famine (1845-1848); start of US-Mexican war (1846); Frederick Douglass founds The North Star, an anti-slavery newspaper (1847); Southwood Smith publishes An Address to the Working Classes of the United Kingdom on their Duty in the Present State of the Sanitary Question (1847)

1848: World-wide cholera epidemic

Uprisings in Berlin, Paris, Vienna, Sicily, Milan, Naples, Parma, Rome, Warsaw, Prague, Budapest, and Dakar; start of Second Sikh war against British in India

In the midst of the 1848 revolution in Germany, Rudolf Virchow founds the medical journal Medical Reform (Medicinische Reform), and publishes his classic "Report on the Typhus Epidemic in Upper Silesia," in which he concludes that preserving health and preventing disease requires "full and unlimited democracy"

Revolution in France, abdication of Louis Philippe, worker uprising in Paris, and founding of The Second Republic, which creates a public health advisory committee attached to the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce and establishes network of local public health councils

First Public Health Act in Britain, which creates a General Board of Health, empowered to establish local boards of health to deal with the water supply, sewerage, cemeteries, and control of "offensive trades," and also to conduct surveys of sanitary conditions

The newly formed American Medical Association sets up a Public Hygiene Committee to address public health issues

First Women's Rights Convention in the United States, at Seneca Falls

Henry Thoreau publishes Civil Disobedience, to protest paying taxes to support the United State's war against Mexico

Karl Marx and Frederick Engels publish The Communist Manifesto

1849-

1854: Elizabeth Blackwell sets up the New York Dispensary for Poor Women and Children (1849); John Snow publishes On the Mode of Communication of Cholera (1849); Lemuel Shattuck publishes Report of the Sanitary Commission of Massachusetts (1850); founding of the London Epidemiological Society (1850); Indian Wars in the southwest and far west (1849-1892); Compromise of 1850 retains slavery in the United States and Fugitive Slave Act passed; Harriet Beecher Stowe publishes Uncle Tom's Cabin (1852); Sojourner Truth delivers her "Ain't I a Woman" speech at the Fourth Seneca Fall convention (1853); John Snow removes the handle of the Broad Street Pump to stop the cholera epidemic in London (1854)